

# TRENDS

## Coal Production and its Relationship to Railroad Employment

by: Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor

*Wyoming is the leading coal-producing state in the U.S. and in 2015 supplied coal to power plants in 31 states, most of it by railroad. In recent years, however, coal production has dropped. This article examines the relationship between coal production and railroad employment.*

**C**oal-fired power plants are the largest consumer of coal in

the U.S. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) coal-

fired power plants consumed 740 million tons of coal in 2015 – approximately 92% of all coal consumed in the U.S. (Johnson, 2016). Much of that coal came from Wyoming. According to the EIA (2016), Wyoming is the leading coal-producing state in the U.S. with 16 active coal mines, the majority of which are located in Campbell County in the Powder River Basin (Wyoming Mining Association, n.d.). Of the 897 million short tons (MMst) of coal produced in the U.S. in 2015, 376 MMT (41.9%) were produced in Wyoming.

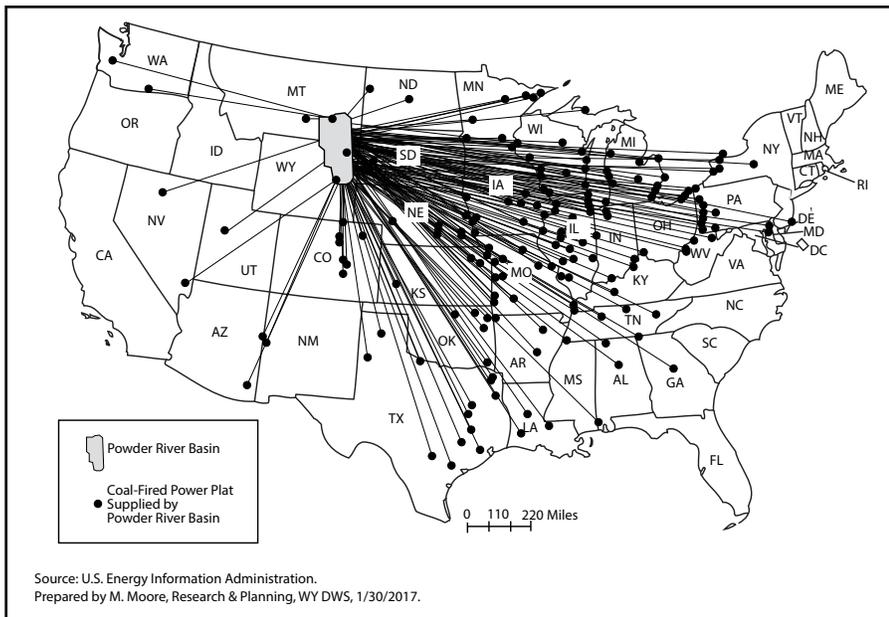


Figure 1: Coal-Fired Power Plants in the U.S. Supplied by the Powder River Basin

(Text continued on page 3)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Wyoming employers added 7,002 total hires across all industries in third quarter 2016, a decrease of 1,944 hires (-21.7%) compared to 2015Q3. In mining, the number of hires during each of the first three quarters of 2016 was lower than at any time since 1996Q1. ... page 12



(Text continued from page 1)

Coal mined in Wyoming is shipped all across the country. As shown in Figure 1 (see page 1), coal from the Powder River Basin was shipped to coal-fired power plants in 31 states in 2015 (EIA, 2016). Approximately 70% of all coal used by power plants to generate electricity in 2015 was shipped by rail, either completely or in part. Meko (2016) noted that, “the busiest freight rail corridor in the U.S. originates in Wyoming, where coal is shipped to power plants in the Midwest.” In other words, railroads depend on Wyoming mines for a substantial portion of their business.

In recent years, however, coal production has declined in response to tighter environmental regulations, cheaper natural gas, and other factors (Neary, 2016). Coal production in Wyoming decreased from 395.7 MMts in 2014 to 375.8 MMts in 2015 (-19.9 MMst, or -5.0%), the lowest level since 2002 (Park, 2016). Figure 2 shows the decline in coal production for the U.S. and Wyoming from 2006 to 2015.

This article examines whether the downturn in coal production (and therefore shipments) has led to a decrease in railroad employment and an increase in Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in the railroad industry.

### Railroad Employment in Wyoming

Railroad employment, measured in terms of the number of jobs worked, has fluctuated in Wyoming over the years (see Table 1, page 4). In 2006, there were 3,550 railroad employees (annual average) in Wyoming, compared to 2,981 in 2014, the most recent year for which data are available (United States Railroad Retirement Board, 2016). In 2013 there were 2,781 railroad employees in Wyoming, the fewest of any year between 2006 and 2014. In 2014, the largest number of railroad employees in Wyoming was found in Laramie County (779), followed by Campbell (398), Sheridan (263), Goshen (236), Sweetwater (207), and Carbon (191) counties. As shown in Figure 3 (see page 4), most of the counties with the highest railroad employment are to the south and east of the Powder River Basin, where most coal passes through on its way out of Wyoming.

The Railroad Retirement Board administers unemployment benefits for U.S. railroad workers; railroad workers are not covered by state

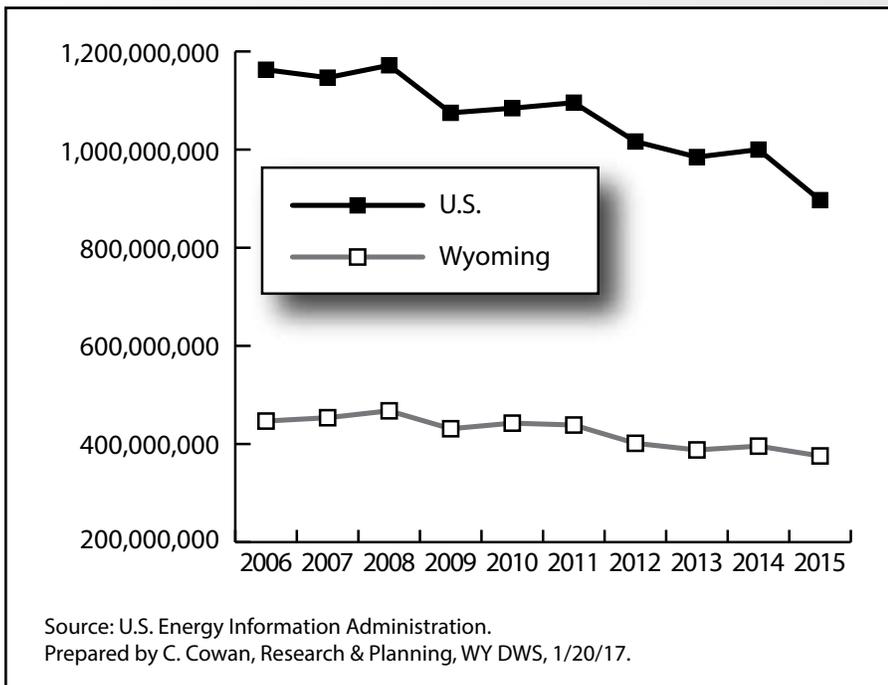
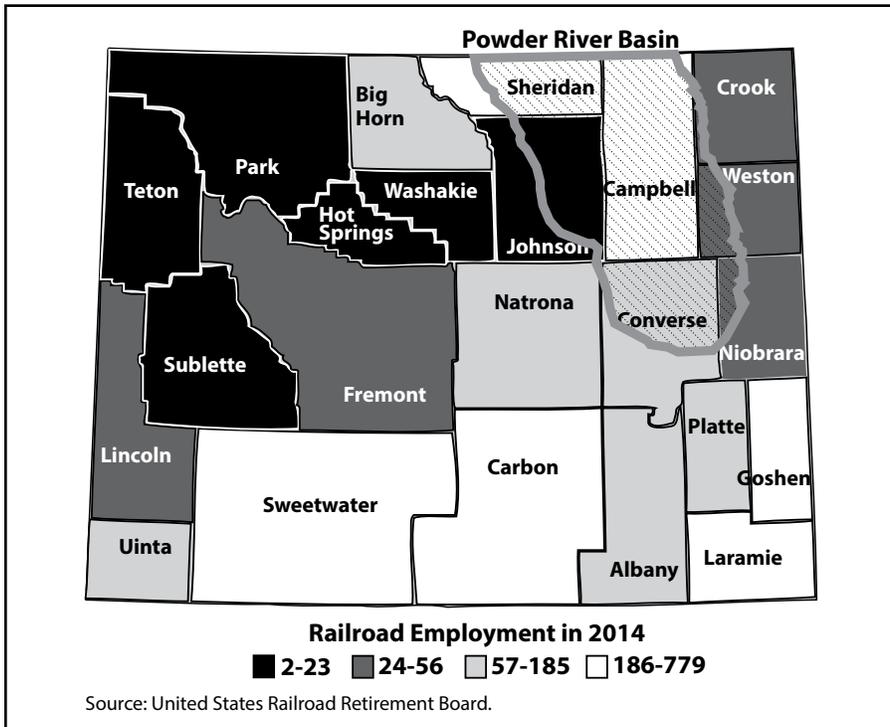


Figure 2: Aggregate Coal Mine Production for All Coal in Million Short Tons in the U.S. and Wyoming, 2006-2015



Unemployment Insurance. In Wyoming, the counties with the largest railroad employment also had the largest number of unique unemployment claimants with continued claims (*railroad claims*) from 2006 to 2016 (see Table 2, page 5). The total number of railroad claims was lowest in 2006 (128) and 2014 (135). The largest number of railroad claims occurred in 2009 (1,436) and 2016 (746) during periods of economic downturn for Wyoming. Data for 2016 were only available through

Figure 3: Railroad Employment in Wyoming by County, 2014

Table 1: Railroad Employment by County in Wyoming, 2006-2014

County	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Albany	134	126	124	114	102	105	90	96	90
Big Horn	80	82	79	66	66	73	70	69	84
Campbell	505	490	453	402	390	437	386	371	398
Carbon	251	228	206	186	196	191	168	171	191
Converse	318	308	308	287	255	234	211	185	180
Crook	26	32	28	31	29	32	33	38	41
Fremont	37	40	47	43	40	40	42	41	46
Goshen	292	289	285	277	251	259	244	220	236
Hot Springs	2	4	4	2	2	4	4	4	6
Johnson	19	14	11	13	12	15	18	20	22
Laramie	939	901	845	779	763	765	737	711	779
Lincoln	27	27	23	20	22	24	25	23	24
Natrona	117	110	105	94	94	99	92	81	110
Niobrara	55	60	57	54	53	53	51	48	47
Park	8	10	11	14	18	27	29	23	23
Platte	143	151	141	140	138	145	129	122	124
Sheridan	251	259	252	237	245	273	252	256	263
Sublette	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2
Sweetwater	227	214	208	195	205	207	196	202	207
Teton	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	2
Uinta	71	67	62	54	54	54	49	52	57
Washakie	6	7	10	11	10	9	10	9	12
Weston	38	40	37	35	37	37	37	37	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>3,463</b>	<b>3,299</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>2,987</b>	<b>3,087</b>	<b>2,876</b>	<b>2,781</b>	<b>2,981</b>

Source: United States Railroad Retirement Board.  
 Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/20/17.

September, and the number is likely to increase.

### Railroad Employment in the U.S.

In 2006 there were 266,186 railroad employees in the U.S. (see Table 3, page 7). The number decreased each year through 2010, when the number of railroad employees dropped to 245,195. National railroad employment increased in 2011 and by 2014, employment had risen to 267,894. The five states with the largest railroad employment during this period were Texas, Illinois, New York,

California, and Nebraska.

The Great Recession from December 2007 through June 2009 (NBER, 2010) led to the largest number of railroad claims nationally during the period from 2006 to 2016 (see Table 4, page 8). There were 98,474 railroad claims in 2009 and another 45,397 in 2010. The lowest number during the period from 2006 to 2016 was in 2006, with 23,604.

Table 4 also shows an increase in railroad claims from 32,369 in all of 2015 to 40,904 through September 2016. The states with the largest numbers of claims for the 11 years reviewed were Illinois, Texas, California, Ohio, and Indiana.

**Table 2: Number of Unique Railroad Unemployment Insurance Claimants with Continued Claims by County in Wyoming, 2006-2016**

County	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Albany	10	8	4	24	25	5	6	6	6	4	17	115
Big Horn	N/D	9	6	59	17	9	N/D	N/D	N/D	9	21	134
Campbell	17	33	5	271	91	54	16	37	6	50	125	705
Carbon	4	40	22	38	15	17	31	12	9	15	25	228
Converse	7	41	23	263	70	45	93	39	19	64	78	742
Crook	0	6	6	15	6	8	15	5	0	5	23	89
Fremont	5	0	N/D	12	4	N/D	0	0	N/D	0	8	36
Goshen	0	13	24	168	59	31	50	15	8	34	84	486
Hot Springs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9
Johnson	0	0	0	18	6	0	0	N/D	N/D	N/D	20	48
Laramie	62	159	88	229	150	59	69	45	46	91	147	1,145
Lincoln	N/D	0	N/D	N/D	0	0	0	0	0	N/D	N/D	8
Natrona	N/D	9	N/D	58	30	13	10	N/D	N/D	12	38	180
Niobrara	N/D	N/D	N/D	26	11	5	13	N/D	N/D	8	9	80
Park	0	0	0	N/D	6	10	4	N/D	N/D	10	N/D	33
Platte	N/D	5	7	86	36	12	29	10	N/D	N/D	25	216
Sheridan	10	4	8	134	47	40	27	20	19	14	99	422
Sublette	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/D	N/D
Sweetwater	5	16	11	12	38	22	22	15	6	9	7	163
Teton	0	N/D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/D
Uinta	N/D	0	12	6	0	0	N/D	N/D	0	N/D	N/D	25
Washakie	N/D	0	0	N/D	N/D	0	0	4	N/D	0	0	13
Weston	N/D	N/D	5	11	5	6	4	4	4	N/D	9	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>4,933</b>

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: United States Railroad Retirement Board.

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## Linear Regression and Conclusion

To examine the relationship between coal production and railroad employment, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services conducted a linear regression, a commonly used predictive analysis that identifies the relationship between one dependent variable and one independent variable. The result of this linear regression was that coal production is not a predictor for railroad employment or railroad claims. Other variables must be considered, including the number of employees and claims in the railroad industry. The linear regression conducted for this research is available at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>.

During the Great Recession, there was a large decline in railroad employment and a large increase in railroad claims both nationally and in Wyoming. This suggests that the general health of the economy influences both railroad employment and railroad claims.

In conclusion, coal production is not the only factor influencing railroad employment and claims. Further studies would need to be done in order to determine what other factors affect these numbers.

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Table 3: Railroad Employment by State, 2006-2014

State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Alabama	4,450	4,491	4,375	4,097	4,050	4,189	4,257	4,035	4,192
Alaska	110	137	119	104	100	119	103	117	129
Arizona	3,571	3,515	3,358	3,121	3,020	3,109	3,153	3,194	3,471
Arkansas	4,154	4,067	3,981	3,734	3,630	3,747	3,871	3,984	4,225
California	15,878	15,376	14,917	13,801	13,134	13,069	13,137	13,255	13,930
Colorado	3,794	3,904	3,829	3,586	3,458	3,664	3,650	3,692	3,974
Connecticut	2,217	2,239	2,346	2,470	2,482	2,489	2,592	2,662	2,722
DC	329	330	338	321	321	315	279	289	299
Delaware	1,376	1,360	1,346	1,436	1,491	1,462	1,495	1,500	1,544
Florida	8,004	7,918	7,604	6,938	7,035	7,261	7,419	7,525	8,102
Georgia	8,702	8,633	8,566	8,006	8,147	8,514	8,605	8,388	8,718
Hawaii	8	11	13	11	7	7	4	7	10
Idaho	1,658	1,707	1,675	1,563	1,520	1,565	1,563	1,581	1,660
Illinois	19,104	18,884	18,773	18,142	18,067	19,234	19,131	18,900	19,897
Indiana	8,534	8,520	8,430	8,155	8,114	8,569	8,537	8,392	8,920
Iowa	4,568	4,554	4,444	4,285	4,082	4,158	4,019	3,921	4,170
Kansas	6,596	6,535	6,511	6,152	5,932	6,171	6,092	6,020	6,380
Kentucky	5,314	5,330	5,291	4,976	4,842	4,968	4,811	4,548	4,665
Louisiana	4,086	4,033	3,907	3,631	3,594	3,752	3,915	4,050	4,129
Maine	756	730	742	686	697	668	654	728	675
Maryland	4,864	4,768	4,767	4,655	4,656	4,715	4,709	4,596	4,748
Massachusetts	3,255	3,244	3,325	3,181	3,253	3,294	3,379	3,445	3,393
Michigan	4,461	4,328	4,177	3,896	3,801	4,046	3,932	3,850	4,077
Minnesota	5,142	5,064	5,176	4,849	4,843	5,419	5,467	5,402	5,845
Mississippi	2,275	2,196	2,129	2,081	2,037	2,196	2,111	2,182	2,296
Missouri	8,480	8,462	8,599	8,133	7,867	8,359	8,419	8,348	9,199
Montana	3,257	3,192	3,156	3,081	3,002	3,184	3,327	3,331	3,665
Nebraska	13,741	14,110	13,854	13,213	12,770	13,294	13,176	13,062	13,820
Nevada	1,018	921	861	803	767	788	746	780	800
New Hampshire	412	405	404	390	386	390	393	422	428
New Jersey	8,084	7,976	7,871	7,786	8,189	8,177	8,329	8,551	8,738
New Mexico	2,105	2,077	2,026	1,896	1,853	1,915	1,958	1,973	2,149
New York	16,653	17,354	17,624	17,138	16,721	16,730	17,050	17,443	17,887
North Carolina	3,216	3,186	3,132	2,980	3,038	3,155	3,143	3,053	3,165
North Dakota	2,106	2,042	2,045	1,955	1,964	2,137	2,204	2,185	2,577
Ohio	9,319	9,275	9,152	8,489	8,409	9,095	9,056	8,671	9,194
Oklahoma	2,295	2,324	2,278	2,124	2,047	2,303	2,318	2,284	2,460
Oregon	3,049	2,862	2,711	2,507	2,375	2,377	2,322	2,356	2,520
Pennsylvania	13,185	13,025	12,892	12,633	12,707	12,862	12,769	12,783	13,215
Rhode Island	456	446	448	491	491	482	487	511	512
South Carolina	2,412	2,379	2,302	2,148	2,150	2,265	2,296	2,215	2,295
South Dakota	1,048	1,075	1,043	1,025	986	1,021	949	889	950
Tennessee	5,069	5,010	5,034	4,808	4,733	5,040	4,952	4,782	4,962
Texas	20,736	20,731	20,136	18,638	18,374	19,141	19,839	20,155	21,465
Utah	2,403	2,363	2,251	2,100	1,966	1,938	1,917	1,944	2,033
Vermont	244	263	281	247	254	274	259	259	261
Virginia	7,286	7,303	7,486	7,121	7,311	7,642	7,551	7,260	7,278
Washington	5,546	5,414	5,306	4,919	4,794	5,120	5,222	5,288	5,978
West Virginia	3,360	3,447	3,559	3,357	3,260	3,345	3,213	2,999	3,010
Wisconsin	3,950	3,850	3,872	3,575	3,481	3,770	3,773	3,778	4,181
Wyoming	3,550	3,463	3,299	3,058	2,987	3,087	2,876	2,781	2,981
<b>Total</b>	<b>266,186</b>	<b>264,829</b>	<b>261,761</b>	<b>248,492</b>	<b>245,195</b>	<b>254,591</b>	<b>255,429</b>	<b>254,366</b>	<b>267,894</b>

Source: United States Railroad Retirement Board.

Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/20/17.

Table 4: Number of Unique Railroad Unemployment Insurance Claimants with Continued Claims by State, 2006-2016

State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Alabama	458	593	592	1,960	684	570	742	901	758	939	1,015	9,212
Alaska	257	231	280	326	330	292	268	263	274	232	108	2,861
Arizona	427	432	580	2,250	1,041	369	290	348	279	455	617	7,088
Arkansas	271	438	454	1,507	605	371	271	304	467	806	744	6,238
California	1,620	2,229	2,916	7,947	3,475	1,641	1,415	1,351	1,577	1,438	1,503	27,112
Colorado	232	355	374	1,813	986	412	269	357	319	571	1,077	6,765
Connecticut	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	126	87	129	123	115	102	27	709
Delaware	97	42	46	90	92	87	81	104	63	90	105	897
District of Columbia	50	29	28	35	73	35	19	34	38	31	15	387
Florida	734	921	1,179	3,066	1,172	846	861	726	852	866	740	11,963
Georgia	922	952	1,104	3,468	1,273	1,057	1,196	1,055	1,424	1,527	1,338	15,316
Hawaii	0	0	4	0-	0	0	0	5	N/D	N/D	5	19
Idaho	112	185	123	919	481	171	135	208	167	265	268	3,034
Illinois	2,956	2,817	2,534	6,818	3,410	2,219	2,375	2,629	2,277	2,613	3,446	34,094
Indiana	1,126	1,153	1,154	3,562	1,566	1,071	1,158	1,112	1,108	1,117	1,337	15,464
Iowa	345	659	625	2,054	1,078	526	568	438	362	380	734	7,769
Kansas	372	535	477	2,468	1,047	466	452	522	448	798	1,141	8,726
Kentucky	403	537	654	2,280	1,020	561	1,020	1,143	734	720	1,588	10,660
Louisiana	565	491	530	1,630	796	508	438	594	594	716	577	7,439
Maine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	278	219	164	236	114	230	98	1,339
Maryland	398	396	443	1,011	593	441	752	659	498	448	369	6,008
Massachusetts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	320	300	287	252	256	259	88	1,762
Michigan	690	731	866	2,535	897	628	719	574	645	685	656	9,626
Minnesota	656	721	636	1,645	1,058	492	554	972	506	870	1,224	9,334
Mississippi	185	249	255	875	556	280	263	297	276	332	344	3,912
Missouri	687	728	785	4,545	1,907	941	947	830	660	1,366	1,886	15,282
Montana	374	354	337	1,462	1,160	564	518	612	431	749	1,060	7,621
Nebraska	438	516	706	5,035	1,992	982	814	852	560	627	1,778	14,300
Nevada	91	257	185	383	260	145	106	96	90	96	129	1,838
New Hampshire	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	80	61	38	73	42	23	13	330
New Jersey	364	564	669	681	702	571	548	528	442	447	389	5,905
New Mexico	303	232	188	892	384	125	174	246	131	251	503	3,429
New York	1,140	1,205	1,115	2,245	1,666	1,318	1,088	1,338	1,318	1,102	1,189	14,724
North Carolina	297	327	495	1,251	642	477	605	605	389	483	564	6,135
North Dakota	457	402	414	826	434	181	140	246	139	289	692	4,220
Ohio	1,005	1,352	1,350	6,049	1,957	997	1,164	1,271	1,130	1,189	1,840	19,304
Oklahoma	162	191	231	999	519	229	246	193	180	387	488	3,825
Oregon	244	307	482	950	528	371	295	275	239	354	352	4,397
Pennsylvania	1,073	1,056	1,257	2,835	1,235	1,088	1,179	1,225	1,006	1,096	1,345	14,395
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/D	N/D	10
Rhode Island	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	56	31	45	53	26	20	8	239
South Carolina	253	349	572	1,724	519	314	373	429	349	432	521	5,835
South Dakota	88	67	137	717	303	137	110	100	91	121	233	2,104
Tennessee	283	450	519	1,807	861	656	881	810	478	745	1,203	8,693
Texas	1,488	2,083	2,553	8,819	3,020	1,572	1,590	1,861	1,695	2,690	3,005	30,376
Utah	184	352	309	770	504	298	191	199	182	385	343	3,717
Vermont	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	24	13	28	33	11	15	164
Virginia	470	503	555	1,936	764	547	690	1,297	766	740	943	9,211
Washington	272	440	408	1,795	737	493	607	516	461	619	582	6,930
West Virginia	179	248	272	1,153	493	374	450	936	404	632	949	6,090
Wisconsin	748	802	832	1,905	1,058	613	597	730	516	681	963	9,445
Wyoming	128	347	228	1,436	619	341	393	226	135	334	746	4,933
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,604</b>	<b>27,828</b>	<b>30,453</b>	<b>98,474</b>	<b>45,397</b>	<b>27,099</b>	<b>28,228</b>	<b>30,782</b>	<b>26,048</b>	<b>32,369</b>	<b>40,904</b>	<b>411,186</b>

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: United States Railroad Retirement Board.

Prepared by C. Cowan, Research &amp; Planning, WY DWS, 1/20/17.

## 2016 Publications from Research & Planning

Research & Planning produced a variety of reports and publications in 2016. Many are available in print, and all may be found online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>. For print copies, call (307) 473-3814 or e-mail [michael.moore@wyo.gov](mailto:michael.moore@wyo.gov).

### WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

January 2016 through December 2016 Monthly publication with current employment, unemployment, employment growth, unemployment insurance claims, county and regional data, and analysis of workforce topics. 296 pages (12-month total) <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

Trends Issue Date	Feature Articles
January	Higher Wages and More Work: Impact Evaluation of a State-Funded Incumbent Worker Training Program; Employment and Wage Change for Selected Industries in Wyoming, 2005Q3-2015Q3
February	How Out-of-State Claimants Affect Wyoming's Unemployment Rate; Current Population Survey Estimates for Wyoming: What Does the State's Unemployment Rate Really Mean?; The Education and Work Experience of Youth in Wyoming's Counties; Wyoming Short-Term Industry and Occupational Projections, 2015-2017
March	Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims Increase 22.9% in 2015; The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2014; Estimated Employment and Wages for Occupations in Coal Mining (NAICS 2121) in Wyoming, May 2015
April	Workforce Planning Report 2016
May	Impact Evaluation of a Wyoming Employment Assistance Program
June	Postsecondary Academic Program Choice and Workforce Outcomes
July	Wyoming Employment & Wages Continue Decline in 2016Q1; Long-Term Industry & Occupational Projections, 2014-2024
August	Non-Carbon Mining: An Important Part of Wyoming's Economy; Wyoming Benefits Survey 2015; High Earning Community College Programs with Limited Offerings
September	Postsecondary Employment and Earnings in Wyoming and 11 Other States; Earnings and Educational Opportunities for Wyoming Nurses
October	Wage Records in Wyoming: Employment and Earnings by Age, Gender, County, & Industry, 2000-2015; Total Wages, Average Monthly Employment, and Average Monthly Wage Changes for Wyoming by Year/Quarter: 2006Q2 to 2016Q2; Wyoming's Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rate was 3.3 for Private Industry in 2015
November	The Job Loss Index: A Better Representation of Job Losses in Wyoming; Highlights of Wyoming's Occupational Employment and Wages for May 2015; Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Decrease to 34 in 2015
December	Coal Production and its Relationship to Railroad Employment; Hiring Activity Continues to Decline in 2016Q3

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## 2016 Publications from Research & Planning

### NEWS RELEASES AND REPORTS

Title	Description	URL
Labor Force Estimates	Updates on the labor force in Wyoming, including statewide and county unemployment rates.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news_archive.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news_archive.htm</a>
Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages	Employment and payroll news by industry and county, updated quarterly.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW/toc.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW/toc.htm</a>
Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims	UI claims by county, industry, and place of residence of claimant.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm</a>
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries	The number of occupational fatalities declined from 37 in 2014 to 34 in 2015, a decrease of three deaths (-8.1%). From 1992 to 2015 there was an average of 34 occupational fatalities each year.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm</a>
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses	Wyoming's nonfatal occupational injury and illness estimated incidence rate for private industry in 2015 was 3.3 per 100 full-time employees. This was 0.2 less than in 2014 (3.5).	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm</a>
Wyoming Turnover Report	Provides tables and figures showing hire and exit data for Wyoming by year and quarter.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/turnover.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/turnover.htm</a>
Wyoming Intercounty Commuting Report	This report includes sample tables and figures that provide readers with a better understanding of the commuting patterns for each Wyoming county, both in the most recent quarter for which data are available (2015Q4) and historically.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/commute.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/commute.htm</a>

### WORKFORCE-EDUCATION CONNECTION: WE CONNECT

Title	Description	URL
Occasional Paper No. 8: The Education and Work Experience of Youth in Wyoming's Counties	The linkage of demographics to workplace experience and educational opportunity in this publication provides a deeper look into the interaction of young people with the labor market and possible influences on their migration decisions.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/occasional/occ8.pdf">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/occasional/occ8.pdf</a>
Wyoming's Hathaway Scholarship Program: A Workforce Outcomes Evaluation of a State Merit-Based Scholarship Initiative Using Administrative Records	This report is aimed primarily at publishing information about the role of education and the value of education in the market with a focus on the job seekers' interests in informed decision making.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect/Hathaway_2016.pdf">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect/Hathaway_2016.pdf</a>

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## 2016 Publications from Research & Planning

### **WORKFORCE-EDUCATION CONNECTION: WE CONNECT**

Title	Description	URL
Education and Employment and Wage Outcomes for University of Wyoming and Wyoming Community College Graduates, 2007/08 to 2014/15, in Wyoming and 11 Other States	This type of research helps inform students, jobseekers, educators, training providers, career counselors, and others of employment and wage trends for specific areas of study.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect/we_connect_outcomes.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect/we_connect_outcomes.htm</a>

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Publication	Description	URL
Wyoming Benefits Survey 2015	This publication examines the prevalence of traditional benefits, such as medical insurance and retirement plans, as well as offerings of paid leave by employer size, industry, and substate region.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits/benefits_2015.pdf">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits/benefits_2015.pdf</a>
National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) Access and Use of Drivers' License Files by State Labor Market Information Offices; Advancing the Cause	This publication is intended to facilitate State Labor Market Information (LMI) office access to demographics, social security numbers, and addresses from state drivers' license files for research purposes as part of a system of enhanced Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w_r_research/NASWA_DMV_May_2016.pdf">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w_r_research/NASWA_DMV_May_2016.pdf</a>
NASWA Labor Market Information Committee Information Update	The committee requested the board consider and approve its two data sharing recommendations: 1. Proposal for the NASWA Board related to wage record data exchange; and 2. Proposal for the NASWA Board related to use of DMV records. Both recommendations were approved.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w_r_research/NASWA_LMI_Data_Sharing_Report.pdf">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w_r_research/NASWA_LMI_Data_Sharing_Report.pdf</a>

### **TABLES, TABULAR DATA, AND OTHER RESOURCES**

Title	Description	URL
Occupational Employment Statistics	A semiannual report that collects and produces occupational employment and wage rate estimates.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm</a>
Projections	Short-term and long-term industry and occupational projections, for Wyoming.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm</a>
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages	Employment and wage estimates (measured in the number of jobs worked) by year and quarter.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/toc_202.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/toc_202.htm</a>
Wage Records: Earnings in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2015	Any individual who had wages in Wyoming at any time from 2000 to 2015 is included in the summary counts.	<a href="http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables/2016/Index.htm">http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables/2016/Index.htm</a>

**Wyoming Labor Market Information**  
<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/>

## Hiring Activity Continues to Decline in 2016Q3

by: Michael Moore, Editor

Wyoming employers added 7,002 total hires across all industries in third quarter 2016 (2016Q3), a decrease of 1,944 hires (-21.7%) compared to 2015Q3 (see Figure 1). In mining, the number of hires during each of the first three quarters of 2016 was lower than at any time since 1996Q1 (see Figure 2).

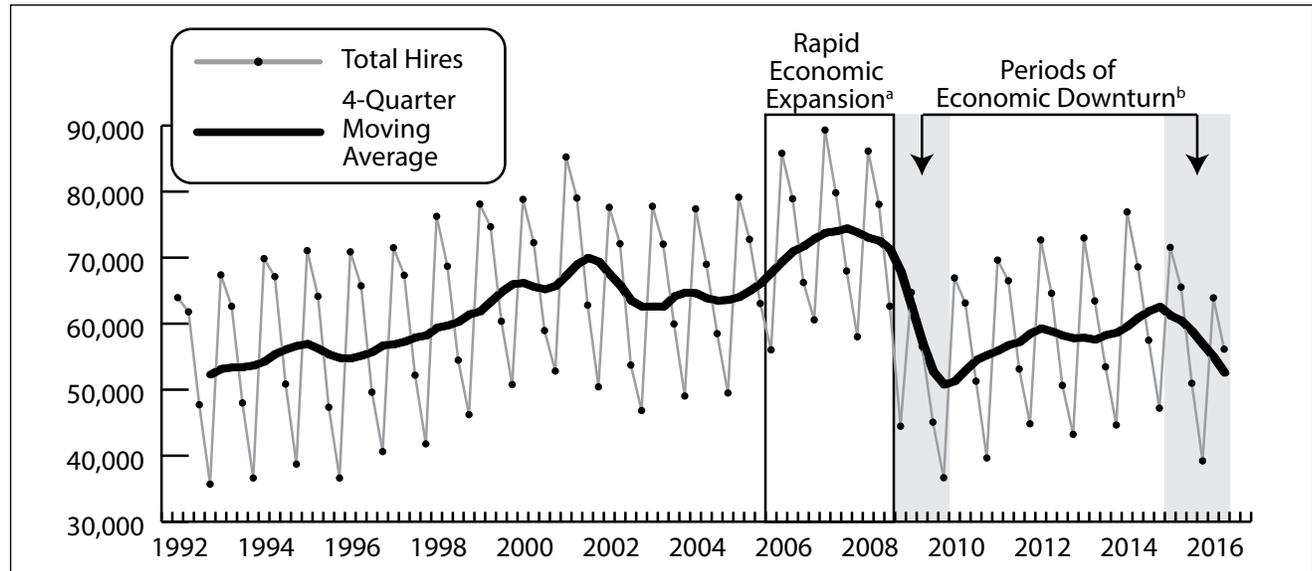


Figure 1: Total Hires in All Industries in Wyoming, 1992Q2 to 2016Q3

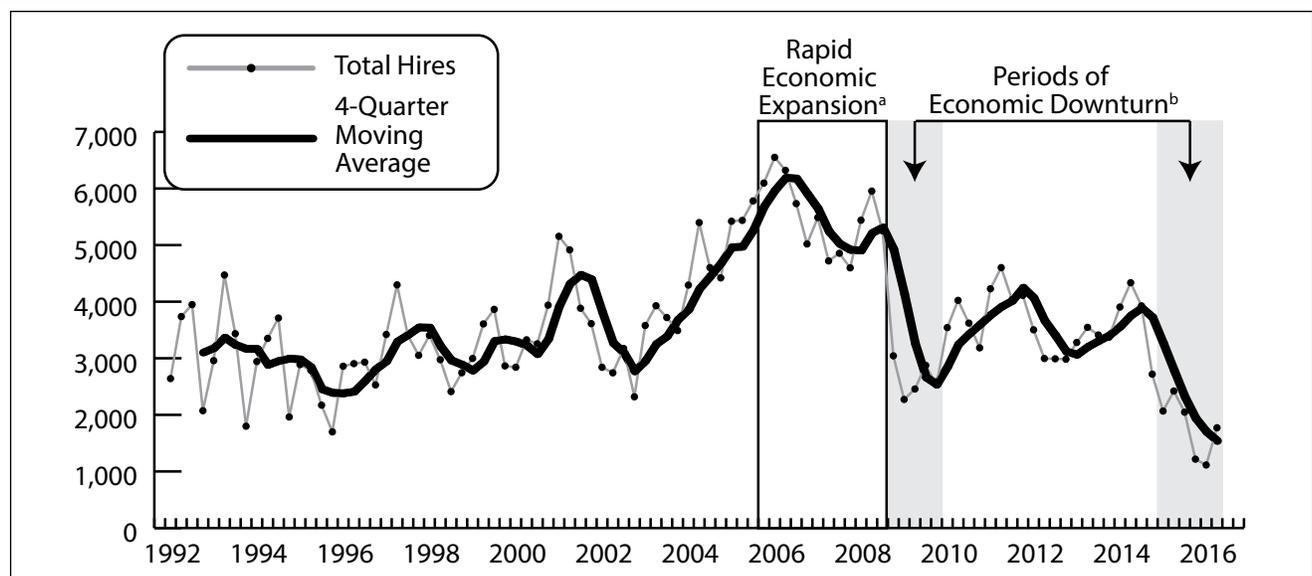


Figure 2: Total Hires in Mining in Wyoming, 1992Q2 to 2016Q3

<sup>a</sup>Rapid Economic Expansion: 2006Q1 to 2008Q4.

<sup>b</sup>Periods of Economic Downturn: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1 and 2015Q2 to 2016Q3 (most recent data).

Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. (2016). Wyoming Turnover by Year and Quarter, 1992Q1 to 2016Q3. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/turnover.htm>.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/23/17.

# Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.1% in October 2016

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> unemployment rate fell significantly from 5.4% in September to 5.1% in October. Wyoming's unemployment rate fell for three consecutive months, but remains higher than its October 2015 level of 4.3%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased significantly, rising by an estimated 1,813 individuals (0.6%) from September to October. Wyoming's labor force and employment both declined from year-ago levels. Labor force fell by 3,602 individuals (-1.2%) and employment fell by 5,997 individuals (-2.1%).

6.4% to 6.1%), and Converse (down from 5.6% to 5.3%) counties.

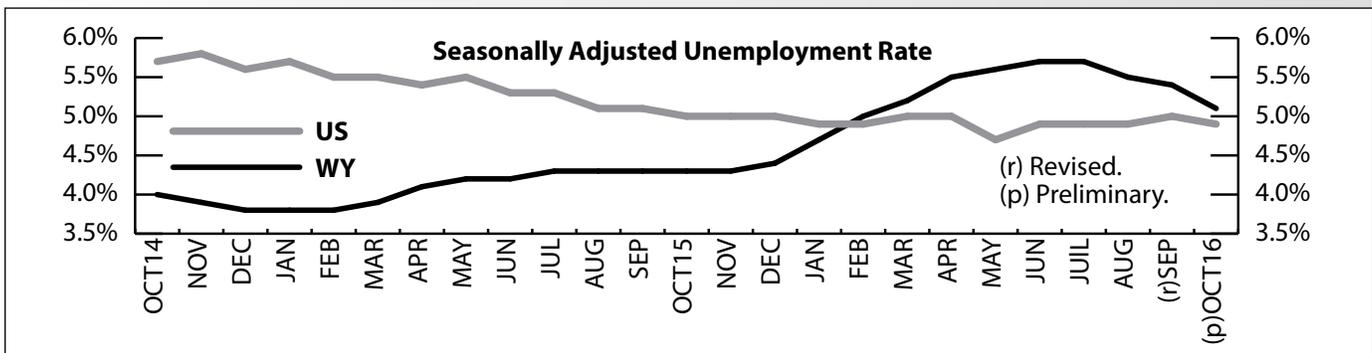
From October 2015 to October 2016, unemployment rates rose in 17 counties, fell in two counties, and were unchanged in four counties. The largest increases were seen in Campbell (up from 3.8% to 6.3%), Converse (up from 3.4% to 5.3%), Natrona (up from 4.8% to 6.3%), and Weston (up from 3.1% to 4.6%) counties. Unemployment rates decreased in Teton (down from 3.8% to 3.0%) and Lincoln (down from 4.1% to 3.6%) counties and were unchanged in Albany (2.8%), Big Horn (3.9%), Goshen (3.0%), and Niobrara (2.9%) counties.

From September to October, most county unemployment rates changed very little. However, Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 2.0% to 3.0% and Park County's unemployment rate rose from 3.6% to 3.9%. Unemployment rates often increase in October in some parts of the state as the summer tourist season has ended and the winter season has not yet started. Falling unemployment rates were seen in Campbell (down from 6.9% to 6.3%), Natrona (down from 6.6% to 6.3%), Fremont (down from

Campbell and Natrona counties had the highest unemployment rates in October (both 6.3%). The next highest rates were found in Fremont (6.1%), Converse (5.3%), Sublette (5.3%), and Sweetwater (5.3%) counties. Albany County posted the lowest unemployment rate (2.8%), followed by Niobrara (2.9%), Teton (3.0%), and Goshen (3.0%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 291,600 in October 2015 to 281,100 in October 2016, a decrease of 10,500 jobs (or -3.6%; a statistically significant decrease).

<sup>1</sup> Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.



# Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, October 2016

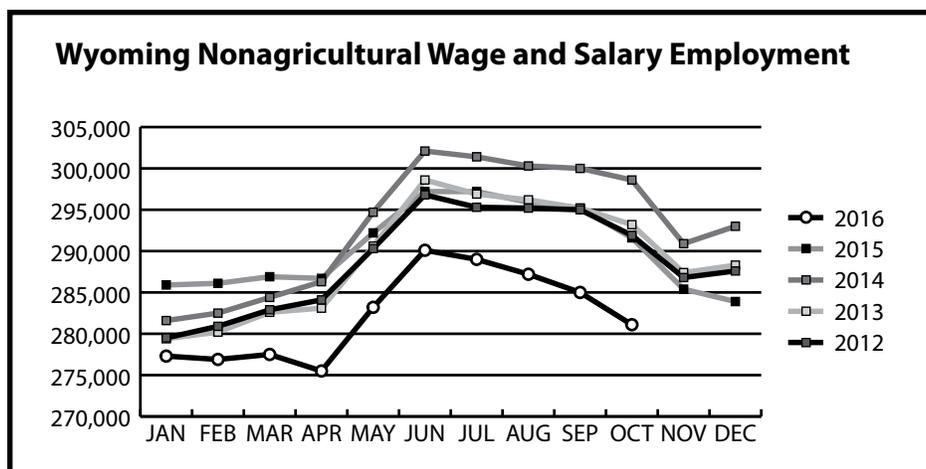
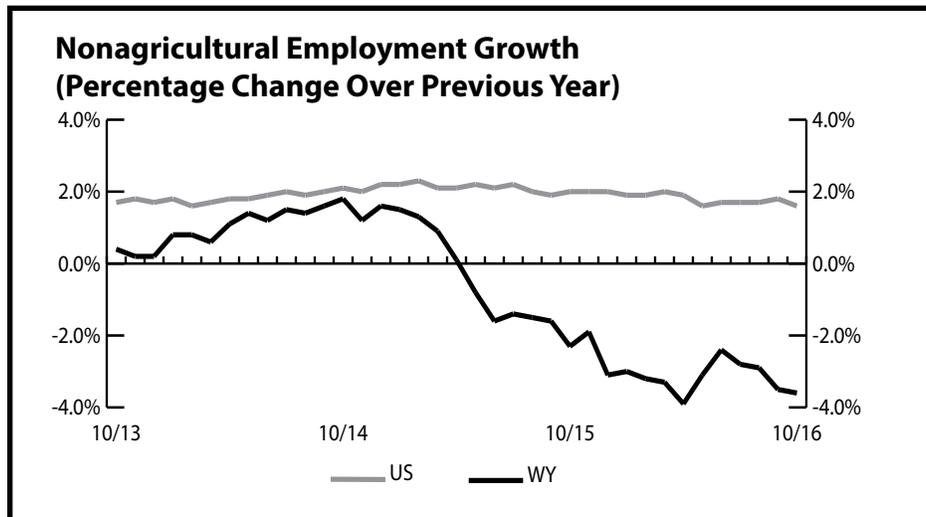
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>282,094</b>	<b>281,100</b>	<b>-994</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	17,707	18,700	993	5.3%
Construction	22,409	22,800	391	1.7%
Manufacturing	9,681	10,000	319	3.2%
Wholesale Trade	7,876	8,300	424	5.1%
Retail Trade	30,963	29,600	-1,363	-4.6%
Transportation & Utilities	14,044	14,200	156	1.1%
Information	3,703	3,600	-103	-2.9%
Financial Activities	10,663	10,600	-63	-0.6%
Professional & Business Services	17,963	18,600	637	3.4%
Educational & Health Services	27,977	28,000	23	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	36,022	33,900	-2,122	-6.3%
Other Services	9,650	10,300	650	6.3%
Government	73,436	72,500	-936	-1.3%

Projections were run in November 2016 and based on QCEW data through June 2016.

## State Unemployment Rates October 2016 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.1
Alaska	6.8
New Mexico	6.7
Louisiana	6.3
District of Columbia	6.1
West Virginia	6.0
Mississippi	5.9
Pennsylvania	5.8
Alabama	5.7
Illinois	5.6
California	5.5
Nevada	5.5
Rhode Island	5.5
Washington	5.4
Oregon	5.3
Arizona	5.2
Georgia	5.2
New Jersey	5.2
New York	5.2
Oklahoma	5.2
Connecticut	5.1
Kentucky	5.1
Missouri	5.1
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>5.1</b>
North Carolina	4.9
Ohio	4.9
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Florida	4.8
Tennessee	4.8
Michigan	4.7
South Carolina	4.7
Texas	4.7
Indiana	4.4
Kansas	4.4
Delaware	4.3
Montana	4.3
Maryland	4.2
Virginia	4.2
Iowa	4.1
Wisconsin	4.1
Arkansas	4.0
Maine	4.0
Minnesota	4.0
Idaho	3.8
Colorado	3.5
Massachusetts	3.3
Nebraska	3.3
Vermont	3.3
Hawaii	3.2
Utah	3.2
North Dakota	3.0
New Hampshire	2.8
South Dakota	2.8



# Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

## State Unemployment Rates October 2016 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 16	Sep 16	Oct 15	Oct 16 Sep 16	Oct 15 Oct 16
	<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>				
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-11.6</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-13.9</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-20.4</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5.5	5.5	7.1	0.0	-22.5
Construction	2.2	2.2	2.6	0.0	-15.4
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	-16.7
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-6.6</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.2	5.2	5.9	0.0	-11.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.5	1.5	1.7	0.0	-11.8
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-1.9</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 16	Sep 16	Oct 15	Oct 16 Sep 16	Oct 15 Oct 16
	<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>				
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-5.8</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-7.7</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-12.0</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4.1	4.2	4.8	-2.4	-14.6
Construction	1.8	1.8	2.1	0.0	-14.3
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-2.5</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.5	4.6	4.9	-2.2	-8.2
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
Professional & Business Services	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-10.0
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.0	16.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.4	2.4	-4.2	-4.2
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Oct 16	Sep 16	Oct 15	Oct 16 Sep 16	Oct 15 Oct 16
	<b>TETON COUNTY</b>				
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>-9.0</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>-10.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>13.6</b>
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.3	2.2	2.1	4.5	9.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	100.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>-10.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.8	3.1	2.7	-9.7	3.7
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Professional & Business Services	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.2	1.1	-8.3	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	7.4	9.1	7.1	-18.7	4.2
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.5
New Mexico	6.5
Alaska	6.3
District of Columbia	6.2
Alabama	6.0
Louisiana	5.9
Mississippi	5.7
West Virginia	5.6
Illinois	5.5
Pennsylvania	5.4
California	5.3
Nevada	5.3
Arizona	5.2
Georgia	5.2
New York	5.0
Washington	5.0
Florida	4.9
New Jersey	4.9
North Carolina	4.9
Oklahoma	4.9
Tennessee	4.9
Oregon	4.8
Rhode Island	4.8
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Kentucky	4.6
Michigan	4.6
Ohio	4.6
South Carolina	4.6
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Connecticut	4.5
Texas	4.4
Delaware	4.2
Maryland	4.2
Missouri	4.1
Virginia	4.1
Kansas	4.0
Indiana	3.9
Montana	3.8
Wisconsin	3.5
Arkansas	3.4
Iowa	3.4
Maine	3.4
Idaho	3.3
Minnesota	3.2
Colorado	3.1
Hawaii	3.1
Nebraska	3.1
Utah	3.1
Massachusetts	2.7
Vermont	2.7
South Dakota	2.4
New Hampshire	2.3
North Dakota	2.2

## Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

*The number of multiple jobholders in the U.S. rose 5.6% from October 2015 to October 2016.*

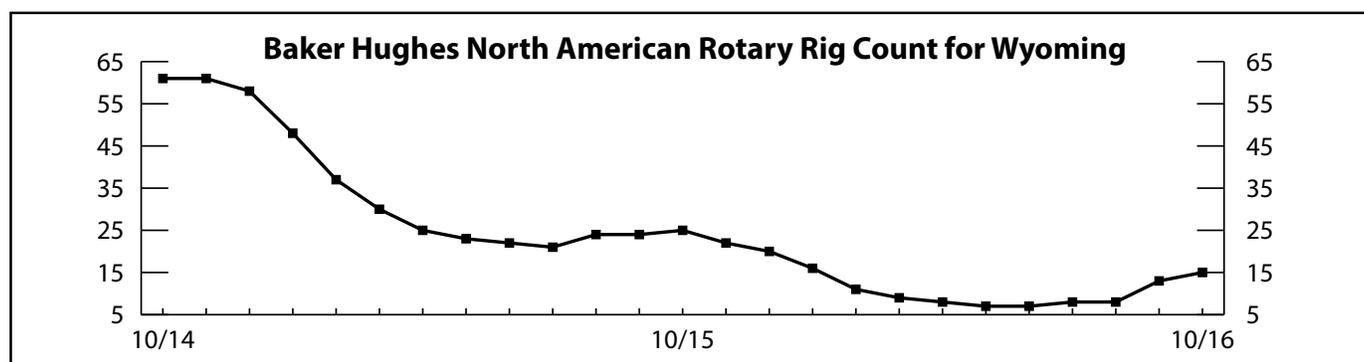
	Oct 2016(p)	Sep 2016(r)	Oct 2015 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
<b>Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>281,100</b>	<b>285,000</b>	<b>291,600</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
Wyoming State Government	15,800	15,700	16,000	0.6	-1.3
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	45,800	45,900	47,600	-0.2	-3.8
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	39,600	39,600	41,800	0.0	-5.3
<b>Selected U.S. Employment Data</b>					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,050,000	7,846,000	7,620,000	2.6	5.6
As a percent of all workers	5.3%	5.2%	5.1%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	487,000	553,000	665,000	-11.9	-26.8
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	5,648,000	5,550,000	5,536,000	1.8	2.0
<b>Wyoming Unemployment Insurance</b>					
Weeks Compensated	14,436	15,803	13,757	-8.7	4.9
Benefits Paid	\$5,717,575	\$6,459,600	\$5,508,549	-11.5	3.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$396.06	\$408.76	\$400.42	-3.1	-1.1
State Insured Covered Jobs <sup>1</sup>	276,739	279,365	272,737	-0.9	1.5
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.0%	2.1%	1.9%	N/A	N/A
<b>Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers</b> (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	241.7	241.4	237.8	0.1	1.6
Food & Beverages	247.9	247.6	248.6	0.1	-0.3
Housing	246.3	246.1	239.4	0.1	2.9
Apparel	130.3	128.4	129.4	1.5	0.7
Transportation	196.2	195.4	195.9	0.4	0.2
Medical Care	469.2	469.2	450.1	0.0	4.3
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	116.7	116.9	116.1	-0.2	0.5
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	139.0	139.2	139.3	-0.1	-0.3
Other Goods & Services	425.5	425.5	418.0	0.0	1.8
<b>Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)</b>					
All Commodities	186.8	187.0	187.5	-0.1	-0.4
<b>Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)</b>					
Total Units	144	162	127	-11.1	13.4
Valuation	\$56,472,000	\$35,330,000	\$37,630,000	59.8	50.1
Single Family Homes	129	134	118	-3.7	9.3
Valuation	\$55,395,000	\$32,713,000	\$36,805,000	69.3	50.5
Casper MSA <sup>2</sup> Building Permits	24	11	20	118.2	20.0
Valuation	\$4,383,000	\$2,214,000	\$3,267,000	98.0	34.2
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	33	35	24	-5.7	37.5
Valuation	\$6,079,000	\$5,766,000	\$4,789,000	5.4	26.9
<b>Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming</b>	15	13	25	15.4	-40.0

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

<sup>1</sup>Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

<sup>2</sup>Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Production worker hours and earnings data have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page because of problems with accuracy due to a small sample size and high item nonresponse. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue to publish these data online at <http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm>.



## Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

*Campbell and Natrona counties had the highest unemployment rates in October (both 6.3%).*

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Oct 2016 (p)	Sep 2016 (r)	Oct 2015 (b)									
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>48,931</b>	<b>49,283</b>	<b>48,264</b>	<b>46,564</b>	<b>46,905</b>	<b>46,231</b>	<b>2,367</b>	<b>2,378</b>	<b>2,033</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Big Horn	5,712	5,696	5,588	5,492	5,477	5,370	220	219	218	3.9	3.8	3.9
Fremont	20,432	20,331	20,244	19,190	19,038	19,250	1,242	1,293	994	6.1	6.4	4.9
Hot Springs	2,450	2,449	2,382	2,343	2,342	2,292	107	107	90	4.4	4.4	3.8
Park	16,005	16,522	15,706	15,373	15,927	15,118	632	595	588	3.9	3.6	3.7
Washakie	4,332	4,285	4,344	4,166	4,121	4,201	166	164	143	3.8	3.8	3.3
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>52,275</b>	<b>52,154</b>	<b>53,158</b>	<b>49,625</b>	<b>49,393</b>	<b>51,205</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Campbell	23,978	23,711	25,471	22,465	22,077	24,510	1,513	1,634	961	6.3	6.9	3.8
Crook	3,733	3,816	3,689	3,584	3,665	3,579	149	151	110	4.0	4.0	3.0
Johnson	4,304	4,337	4,168	4,118	4,161	4,004	186	176	164	4.3	4.1	3.9
Sheridan	16,274	16,291	15,858	15,657	15,680	15,264	617	611	594	3.8	3.8	3.7
Weston	3,986	3,999	3,972	3,801	3,810	3,848	185	189	124	4.6	4.7	3.1
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>60,115</b>	<b>60,864</b>	<b>59,731</b>	<b>57,459</b>	<b>58,265</b>	<b>57,177</b>	<b>2,656</b>	<b>2,599</b>	<b>2,554</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Lincoln	8,849	8,903	8,450	8,531	8,569	8,104	318	334	346	3.6	3.8	4.1
Sublette	4,332	4,528	4,533	4,101	4,285	4,322	231	243	211	5.3	5.4	4.7
Sweetwater	22,149	21,722	22,715	20,983	20,519	21,710	1,166	1,203	1,005	5.3	5.5	4.4
Teton	15,196	16,112	14,498	14,733	15,784	13,951	463	328	547	3.0	2.0	3.8
Uinta	9,589	9,599	9,535	9,111	9,108	9,090	478	491	445	5.0	5.1	4.7
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>83,731</b>	<b>81,224</b>	<b>84,256</b>	<b>80,841</b>	<b>78,424</b>	<b>81,451</b>	<b>2,890</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>2,805</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Albany	22,202	20,759	21,963	21,575	20,172	21,353	627	587	610	2.8	2.8	2.8
Goshen	7,318	7,226	7,369	7,098	7,007	7,145	220	219	224	3.0	3.0	3.0
Laramie	48,035	46,970	48,659	46,224	45,215	46,910	1,811	1,755	1,749	3.8	3.7	3.6
Niobrara	1,372	1,392	1,323	1,332	1,350	1,284	40	42	39	2.9	3.0	2.9
Platte	4,804	4,877	4,942	4,612	4,680	4,759	192	197	183	4.0	4.0	3.7
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>57,893</b>	<b>57,299</b>	<b>59,432</b>	<b>54,542</b>	<b>53,815</b>	<b>56,828</b>	<b>3,351</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>2,604</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Carbon	8,530	8,451	8,919	8,188	8,118	8,623	342	333	296	4.0	3.9	3.3
Converse	7,931	8,072	8,289	7,513	7,617	8,010	418	455	279	5.3	5.6	3.4
Natrona	41,432	40,776	42,224	38,841	38,080	40,195	2,591	2,696	2,029	6.3	6.6	4.8
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>302,944</b>	<b>300,824</b>	<b>304,839</b>	<b>289,030</b>	<b>286,802</b>	<b>292,891</b>	<b>13,914</b>	<b>14,022</b>	<b>11,948</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										5.1	5.4	4.3
U.S. ....										4.7	4.8	4.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										4.9	5.0	5.0

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2016. Run Date 11/2016.

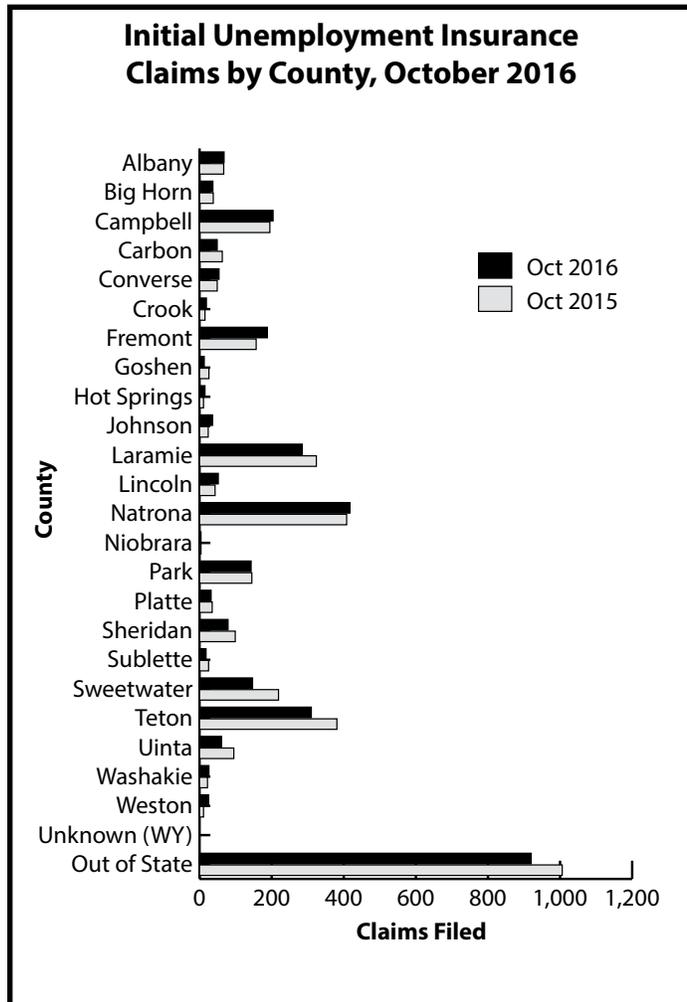
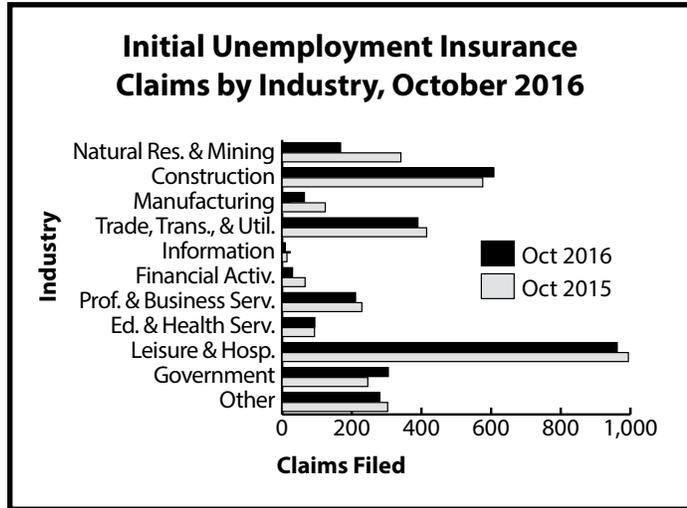
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Total initial claims decreased by 7.5% (-258 claims) from October 2015 to October 2016. Most industries experienced an over-the-year decrease in initial claims.



Initial Claims	Claims Filed		Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 15
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>	<b>3,203</b>	<b>3,461</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>-7.5</b>
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>-5.0</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>-19.3</b>
Natural Res. & Mining	168	341	26.3	-50.7
Mining	149	334	18.3	-55.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	11	37	37.5	-70.3
Construction	608	576	28.0	5.6
Manufacturing	64	124	-12.3	-48.4
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	390	415	8.9	-32.9
Wholesale Trade	49	73	55.7	22.8
Retail Trade	232	189	7.9	-28.8
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	109	153	-35.7	-35.7
Information	9	14	6.4	-54.5
Financial Activities	30	66	70.2	-7.9
Prof. and Business Svcs.	211	229	-17.5	1.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	94	93	302.5	-3.2
Leisure & Hospitality	962	994	30.4	46.0
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	73	50	108.9	24.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>320.0</b>	<b>12.8</b>
Federal Government	168	40	100.0	66.7
State Government	30	15	17.8	34.2
Local Government	106	79	-13.6	11.8
Local Education	19	22	27.9	-7.6
UNCLASSIFIED	280	303		

Laramie County					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>-12.1</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>-31.0</b>
Construction	73	58	109	25.9	-33.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>-5.5</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	44	31	56	41.9	-21.4
Financial Activities	5	4	17	25.0	-70.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	57	20	39	185.0	46.2
Educational & Health Svcs.	8	11	16	-27.3	-50.0
Leisure & Hospitality	27	17	21	58.8	28.6
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>41.2</b>
UNCLASSIFIED	15	9	14	66.7	7.1

Natrona County					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
Construction	119	83	71	43.4	67.6
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	64	70	72	-8.6	-11.1
Financial Activities	4	3	18	33.3	-77.8
Prof. & Business Svcs.	48	31	28	54.8	71.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	21	33	17	-36.4	23.5
Leisure & Hospitality	50	32	42	56.3	19.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
UNCLASSIFIED	9	10	9	-10.0	0.0

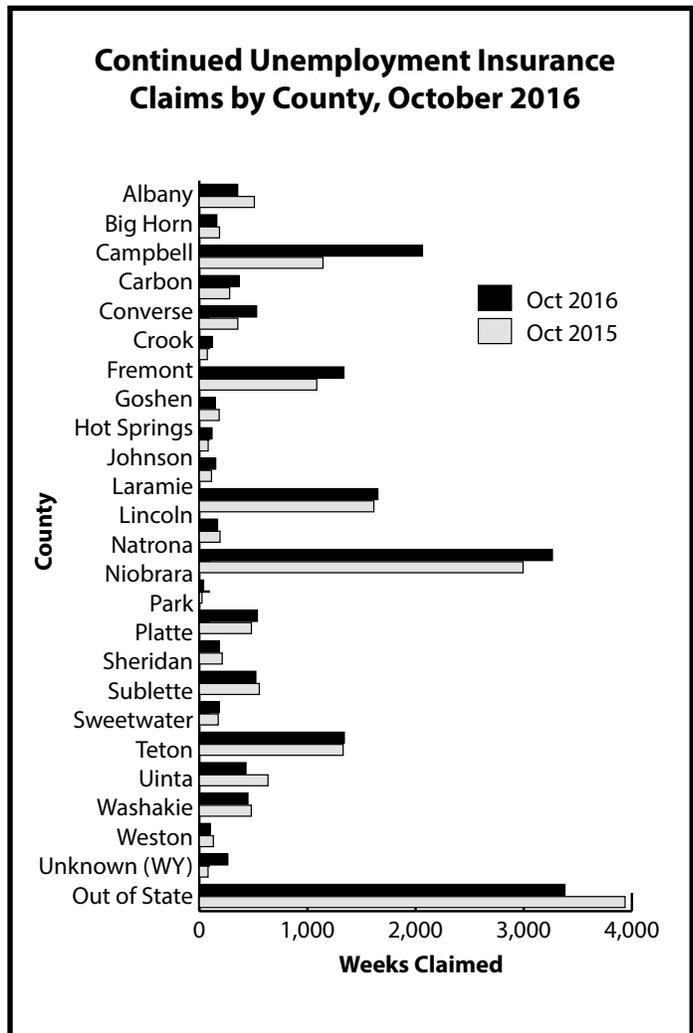
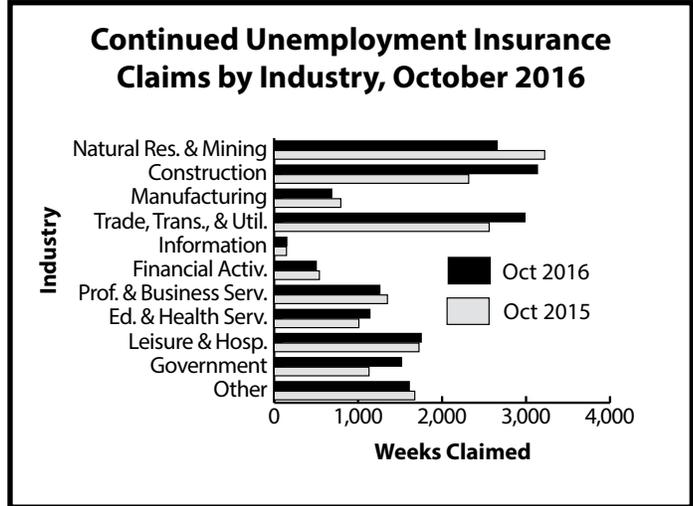
<sup>a</sup>An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

From October 2015 to October 2016, the number of unique claimants with continued claims increased 5.8% (296 workers). Total continued weeks claimed increased by 6.0% (1,019 weeks).

Continued Claims	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Oct 16	Sep 16	Oct 15	Sep 16	Oct 15
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>17,889</b>	<b>18,801</b>	<b>16,870</b>	<b>-4.9</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>5,403</b>	<b>5,407</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Benefit Exhaustions	553	574	402	-3.7	37.6
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.2%	10.6%	7.9%	-0.4%	2.4%
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>6,478</b>	<b>7,448</b>	<b>6,335</b>	<b>-13.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Natural Res. & Mining	2,656	3,533	3,222	-24.8	-17.6
Mining	2,563	3,453	3,184	-25.8	-19.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	306	422	267	-27.5	14.6
Construction	3,136	3,144	2,317	-0.3	35.3
Manufacturing	686	770	794	-10.9	-13.6
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>8,281</b>	<b>7,989</b>	<b>7,729</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	2,987	3,159	2,561	-5.4	16.6
Wholesale Trade	902	1,118	745	-19.3	21.1
Retail Trade	1,264	1,149	904	10.0	39.8
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	821	892	912	-8.0	-10.0
Information	151	162	147	-6.8	2.7
Financial Activities	502	601	539	-16.5	-6.9
Prof. & Business Svcs.	1,259	1,373	1,349	-8.3	-6.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,141	1,184	1,009	-3.6	13.1
Leisure & Hospitality	1,752	1,011	1,725	73.3	1.6
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	481	492	390	-2.2	23.3
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>34.3</b>
Federal Government	335	243	286	37.9	17.1
State Government	179	150	201	19.3	-10.9
Local Government	1,003	1,071	641	-6.3	56.5
Local Education	260	333	182	-21.9	42.9
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>-15.1</b>	<b>-3.9</b>
<b>Laramie County</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,671</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>-9.6</b>
Construction	252	246	299	2.4	-15.7
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>8.0</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	356	386	287	-7.8	24.0
Financial Activities	67	59	103	13.6	-35.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	209	199	196	5.0	6.6
Educational & Health Svcs.	156	163	176	-4.3	-11.4
Leisure & Hospitality	120	75	81	60.0	48.1
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>-7.0</b>	<b>-8.0</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>22.0</b>
<b>Natrona County</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>3,264</b>	<b>3,565</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>-10.6</b>	<b>-6.3</b>
Construction	552	523	345	5.5	60.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,794</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>1,489</b>	<b>-6.8</b>	<b>20.5</b>
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	747	872	615	-14.3	21.5
Financial Activities	68	97	119	-29.9	-42.9
Professional & Business Svcs.	200	223	235	-10.3	-14.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	351	368	189	-4.6	85.7
Leisure & Hospitality	258	212	182	21.7	41.8
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>96.4</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>-8.8</b>	<b>-1.4</b>



<sup>a</sup>An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

<sup>b</sup>Does not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

**Wyoming Department of Workforce  
Services, Research & Planning  
P.O. Box 2760  
Casper, WY 82602**

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